

Message

From: Dunn, Alexandra [dunn.alexandra@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/1/2019 12:04:19 AM
To: Strauss, Linda [Strauss.Linda@epa.gov]
CC: Beck, Nancy [Beck.Nancy@epa.gov]; Bertrand, Charlotte [Bertrand.Charlotte@epa.gov]; Baptist, Erik [Baptist.Erik@epa.gov]; Dunton, Cheryl [Dunton.Cheryl@epa.gov]; Altieri, Sonia [Altieri.Sonia@epa.gov]; Hanley, Mary [Hanley.Mary@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: non-urgent - Media inquiry on PFAS: DDI 3/1

The responses below are factual and consistent with the plan.

I note that with this level of volume coming in - from company bloggers as well as traditional media - we need to increase our communications capacity! Thanks Linda for keeping up with this all.

Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, Esq.
Assistant Administrator
Office of Chemical Safety & Pollution Prevention
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 28, 2019, at 6:21 PM, Strauss, Linda <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov> wrote:

Incoming/From OPA: She's asked some general questions about the plan that OW is answering, but OW would like OPPT to answer the following:

- It looks like the companies of concern stopped using these compounds in their products in 2015. Why is this still a concern and what makes this such a landmark event?
- What existing products with PFAS are still in circulation? Are any still being imported or sold?
- Also, would this affect any international corporations?

Responses - the vast majority of it is pulled from the plan itself or the press release.

- **It looks like the companies of concern stopped using these compounds in their products in 2015. Why is this still a concern?**

Due to their strong carbon-fluorine bonds, many PFAS can be very persistent in the environment with degradation periods of years, decades, or longer under natural conditions. PFOA and PFOS, two of the most widely studied PFAS, have been detected in the blood serum of up to 99% of samples collected between 1999 and 2012 in a population that is representative for the U.S. Although PFOA and PFOS are not produced domestically by the companies participating in the 2010/2015 PFOA Stewardship Program, PFOA and PFOS may still be produced domestically by companies not participating in the PFOA Stewardship Program.

- **And what makes this such a landmark event?**

This historic PFAS Action Plan responds to extensive public interest and input the agency has received over the past year and represents the first time EPA has built a multi-media, multi-program, national communication and research plan to address an emerging environmental challenge like PFAS. EPA's Action Plan identifies both short-term solutions for addressing these chemicals and long-term strategies that will help provide the tools and technologies states, tribes, and local communities need to provide

clean and safe drinking water to their residents and to address PFAS at the source—even before it gets into the water.

- **What existing products with PFAS are still in circulation? Are any still being imported or sold?**

Yes. As mentioned previously, although PFOA and PFOS are not produced domestically by the companies participating in the 2010/2015 PFOA Stewardship Program, PFOA and PFOS may still be produced domestically by companies not participating in the PFOA Stewardship Program. PFOA and PFOS are only two PFASs. There are currently 602 PFAS chemicals in commerce in the U.S. PFAS are used in a wide variety of consumer products and industrial processes, including firefighting foams, chemical processing, building/construction, aerospace, electronics, semiconductor and automotive industries, stain- and water-resistant coatings (e.g., carpets and rain repellent clothing), food packaging, and in waxes and cleaners. Due to their desirable chemical properties for consumer goods, PFAS are widely used in commercial products and can be found in almost every U.S. home and business.

For any new PFAS chemical and its uses, including in products, that fall under TSCA purview, EPA has the responsibility for reviewing new chemical substances before they enter commerce. The EPA's TSCA New Chemicals program functions as a "gatekeeper" to help manage the potential risk to human health and the environment from chemicals new to the marketplace. TSCA requires the EPA to make risk determinations on new industrial chemicals and provides the EPA with a range of regulatory options to address risks. The EPA New Chemicals Program has reviewed more than 300 Pre-Manufacture Notice or Significant New Use Notice submissions for PFAS substances since the beginning of the PFOA Stewardship Program, of which about 200 were regulated by the EPA, typically under a section 5(e) Order.

- **Also, would this affect any international corporations?**

The requirements under TSCA apply to any new PFAS, whether manufactured domestically or imported.

From: Sauerhage, Maggie

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 4:11 PM

To: Ortiz, Julia <Ortiz.Julia@epa.gov>; Pierce, Alison <Pierce.Alison@epa.gov>

Cc: Dunton, Cheryl <Dunton.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Strauss, Linda <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov>; Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Media inquiry on PFAS: DDI 3/1

Hi – just checking to see if we have anything on these yet, thanks!

Maggie Sauerhage

Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office: (202) 564-0443

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Sauerhage, Maggie

Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:44 AM

To: Ortiz, Julia <Ortiz.Julia@epa.gov>; Pierce, Alison <Pierce.Alison@epa.gov>

Cc: Dunton, Cheryl <Dunton.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Strauss, Linda <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov>; Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>

Subject: Media inquiry on PFAS: DDI 3/1

Good morning – new media inquiry, deadline is this Friday 3/1. A reporter who writes a bi-monthly blog on environmental concerns for Enablon Corporation says their readers follow the EPA very closely and she would like to write a blog about the new plan addressing PFAS.

She's asked some general questions about the plan that OW is answering, but OW would like OPPT to answer the following:

- It looks like the companies of concern stopped using these compounds in their products in 2015. Why is this still a concern and what makes this such a landmark event?
- What existing products with PFAS are still in circulation? Are any still being imported or sold?
- Also, would this affect any international corporations?

Can you please draft answers to these? Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Maggie

Maggie Sauerhage
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Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)